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Ex-director speaks at OU**CIA cloak is uncovered**By TROUT POMEROY
Of The Oakland Press

He didn't exactly look like a spy. And he admitted it.

But William Colby, 61, former director of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), told a wealth of spy stories for 200 students and other guests during a one-hour address Wednesday afternoon at Oakland University (OU).

"Already, I think some of the ladies are disappointed," he said. "They're probably asking, 'Where's the cloak? Where's the stiletto? Where's the blonde?'"

Colby said such images of a spy are, for the most part, elements of the past. Intelligence gathering, he said, has taken on a new look since the Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor in December, 1941.

"After our fleet was bombed, we looked around to see why we were so surprised," he said. "We found it wasn't for lack of information. We had that. But it hadn't been brought together or centralized. So we started at this time to get really serious about the business of establishing an intelligence service."

Subsequent to World War II, professionals such as scientists, attorneys, engineers and other scholars were attracted to the CIA, changing its image, Colby said. At the same time, the agency also began using advanced technology.

"We don't have to do things like send a spy slinking up through China to inspect the Manchurian border," he said. "Now we can look

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— William Colby

down from satellites and count the enemy's tanks and troop movements. We have a precision of knowledge now we couldn't have dreamed about 30 years ago. We've become a great technological enterprise."

That enterprise ran into difficulty, Colby said, when the Vietnam War and Watergate turned intense public scrutiny upon the agency.

He described that scrutiny as "an orgy of recrimination" that "grossly exaggerated" the agency's actual record. Colby said the negative points that were discussed during this time had already been cleared up by the agency.

"But that didn't matter," he said. "It still became a great political football."

Control and accountability structures now exist at the CIA to prevent the kind of abuses that caused the agency earlier damage, Colby said.

Looking to the 1980s and beyond, Colby insisted the CIA must monitor global events and



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described an organization more attuned to the analysis of information.

The purpose of intelligence, he said, is to provide enough warning so that changes can be made to influence world events.

"One of our principle functions needs to be providing information to enable the American intelligence system to solve problems instead of having to fight about them," he said. "Otherwise we would have confusion."

After beginning his intelligence career in World War II parachuting behind German lines, Colby served around the world before becoming CIA director from 1973 to 1976. He is currently an attorney in Washington, D.C.